

Serial No. 09/855,149
Docket No. NEC 142135
Amendment B under Rule 116

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 13, as follows:

In order to achieve the above-mentioned objects, a network commerce system of the present invention comprises an orderer terminal handled by an orderer ordering an item or service; a plurality of producing/processing terminals each which is handled by a producer/processor. The producer/processor produces and processes the item or provides a produced and processed item, in accordance with an order from the orderer terminal. The orderer terminal and the producing/processing terminal are interconnected via the network. The network ~~commerce~~ commerce system further comprises a headquarters terminal including a receiver for receiving an order from the orderer terminal transmitted via the network and a transmitter for transmitting the order received by the receiver to a producing/processing terminal via the network. The headquarters terminal selectively determines the producing/processing terminal in accordance with a received order and then makes the selected producing/processing terminal produce and process the item or provide a produced and processed item.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 21, as follows:

Moreover, the present invention relates to an orderer terminal used in a network commerce system. The network commerce system comprises orderer terminals each handled by an orderer ordering an item or service; a plurality of producing/processing terminals each which is handled by a producer/processor which produces and processes the item or supplies a produced/processed item, in accordance with an order from each of the orderer terminals; and a headquarters terminal. The ~~head-quarters~~ headquarters terminal includes a receiver for

HAYES SOLOWAY P.C.
130 W. CUSHING STREET
TUCSON, AZ 85701
TEL. 520.882.7623
FAX. 520.882.7643

175 CANAL STREET
MANCHESTER, NH 03101
TEL. 603.668.1400
FAX. 603.668.8567

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receiving an order transmitted from an orderer terminal via the network; a transmitter for transmitting an item received by the receiver to a producing/receiving terminal via the network; and means for selectively determining the producing/processing terminal in accordance with a received order and then making the selected producing/processing terminal produce and process the item or supply the produced/processed item. Thus, network commerce is performed between a producing/processing terminal and the headquarters terminal connected via a network.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 16, as follows:

Moreover, the present invention relates to a payment terminal used in a network commerce system. The network commerce system comprises orderer terminals each handled by an orderer ordering an item or service; a plurality of producing/processing terminals each which is handled by a producer/processor which produces and processes the item or supplies a produced/processed item, in accordance with an order from each of the orderer terminals; and a headquarters terminal. The ~~head-quarters~~ headquarters terminal includes a receiver for receiving an order transmitted from the orderer terminal via the network, a transmitter for transmitting an item received by the receiver to a producing/receiving terminal via the network; means for selectively determining the producing/processing terminal in accordance with a received order and then making the selected producing/processing terminal produce and process the item or supply the produced/processed item; and a payment terminal for paying a purchase charge of the item or service sold or supplied via the orderer terminal. Thus, a network commerce is performed between the orderer terminal and the producing/processing terminal and the headquarters terminal, interconnected via a network.

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Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 13, as follows:

Moreover, the present invention relates to a network commerce method, wherein an orderer terminal orders an item or service via, a network and a producing/processing terminal sells the item or provides the service, in accordance with the order. The network ~~commerce~~ commerce method comprises the steps of receiving the order transmitted from the orderer terminal via the network, using a headquarters terminal; selectively determining a producing/processing terminal for the item in accordance with the content of the received order, using the headquarters terminal; transmitting the order to the selected producing/processing terminal via the network; making the selected producing/processing terminal produce and process the item or supply the produced/processed item; and paying, when the order is received or after the produced/processed item is supplied, a purchase charge of the item or service via the orderer terminal.

HAYES SOLOWAY P.C.
130 W. CUSHING STREET
TUCSON, AZ 85701
TEL. 520.882.7623
FAX. 520.882.7643

175 CANAL STREET
MANCHESTER, NH 03101
TEL. 603.668.1400
FAX. 603.668.8567